

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 /065 W

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R 270205Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9494

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13051

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, PORG, RP

SUBJECT: ILO PRESIDENCY OF MARITIME CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 197472

1. SECRETARY OF LABOR BLAS OPLE TOLD LABATT AUGUST 26 THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE JAPANESE TO CAMPAIGN IN FAVOR OF ANY CANDIDATE; HOWEVER, WHILE IN GENEVA, THE JAPANESE ILO DELEGATION CHAIRMAN DID MENTION THAT TSURUMI WAS GOING TO RESIGN. NOTHING WAS SAID ABOUT HAREIDE THAT HE COULD RECALL.

2. OPLE FEELS THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE AND UNFAIR FOR THE JAPANESE TO SEEK TO CONTINUE HAVING THE PRESIDENCY OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE SINCE THEY ALREADY HAVE OTHER IMPORTANT ILO POSITIONS IN ASIA. THE NEW ILO REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN BANGKOK WILL BE A JAPANESE, HE SAID.

3. OPLE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY OTHER ASIAN HAVING BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR THE POSITION. ASEAN WAS NOT PROPOSING A CANDIDATE EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE ALL MARITIME NATIONS. WERE IT NOT FOR THE FACT THAT OPLE WAS A RECENT ILO CONFERENCE PRESIDENT, HE SAID HE WOULD BE PROPOSING HIS
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UNDERSECRETARY, AMADO "GAT" INCIONG, AS CHAIRMAN OF

THIS COMMITTEE. INCIONG WILL BE ATTENDING THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION.

4. OPLE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE NORWEGIANS WANT THE PRESIDENCY OF THE MARITIME CONFERENCE AND HE BELIEVES THEY ARE THE MOST LIKELY ONES TO BE GRANTED THE PRESIDENCY.

5. OPLE DID NOT SEEM CONCERNED ABOUT THE JAPANESE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION HE HAD GIVEN LITTLE CONSIDERATION TO THE PROBLEM PRIOR TO TALKING TO LABATT ABOUT THE MATTER.
SULLIVAN

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